

Cable Communications Advisory Committee (CCAC) Meeting Notes for March 17, 2021

Members and county staff in attendance: Vince Doring, Dorshae Demby, Christina Junior, Liel, and Bernadette Garrett

Meeting started at 7:06 pm

Agenda items discussed:

I. Meeting minutes for November 18, 2020; January 20 and Feb 18 of 2021 (Tabled – Need a quorum to approve)

II. Create Committee Meeting Schedule for 2021 (Tabled – Need a quorum to approve)

III. Broadband Service Advocacy Items

- **Vendor Broadband Support to Rural Areas and Pandemic Concerns**
 - MCCC Staff reported they submitted a questionnaire/survey to persons in rural that currently do not have or trouble having Internet and/or broadband service but have received little response.
 - As of 03.17.21, they have only received 11 response out of the 338 surveys sent out. The survey is to help identify interest in potential Broadband options in their area.
 - Committee working to identify ways to help get responses from rural areas that want and need broadband services.
- **Budget**
 - Allow participation in meetings on the draft Budget talks (contract)
 - Verizon contract expires 11/21/2021.
- **Digital Programmable TV Guide** for County cable channels
 - **Reach out to program content providers and request they push out information about their programming (e.g., website, newsletter, flyer)

- Awaiting Response from Cable Vendor's Relations Representatives for any measures to help with this item.

IV. Future Focus Items:

- Post Pandemic Advocacy Efforts
- Digital Programmable TV Guide for County cable channels
- **Reach out to program content providers and request they push out information about their programming (e.g., website, newsletter, flyer)
- **Informational Sessions and County Cable Data Retrieval (Tentatively Table During Pandemic Unless Virtual Option is Available)**
 - Steve Boliek and Christina Junior will reach out to Montgomery County College Cable TV to identify potential dates to sit down and get insight to their cable program.
 - Identify and attend (in person or via CCM) to public hearings or sessions pertaining to the county's cable TV budget and/or programming.

VII. Committee Action Items

A. Advocacy Letter (Tentatively Tabled): Draft Letter Outline is located on the committee's Gmail share drive for content contributions and editing.

B. County Council Public Hearing Schedule (Ongoing)

- CCAC is looking for public budget hearings to attend.
- If we decide to present on behalf of CCAC, we will follow the fore mentioned procedures.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:07 pm